Appln. No.: 09/961,355

Amendment dated December 12, 2003

Reply to Office Action of October 20, 2003

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The final Office Action of October 20, 2003, has been carefully reviewed and these

remarks are responsive thereto. Reconsideration and allowance of the instant application are

respectfully requested.

Claims 1-18 and 24-31 are now pending in this application. By this Amendment claims

19-23, 32 and 33 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants reserve the

right to pursue the canceled claims in a continuing application.

To obtain an issued patent as quickly as possible, all of the rejected claims have been

canceled. Only allowed claims remain pending. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that

the present application is in condition for immediate allowance.

The specification has been amended to better conform to the claims as allowed. No new

matter has been added.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the

By:

undersigned at the number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: December 12, 2003

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